

HAMPDEN SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP HAMPDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MINUTES

MONDAY OCTOBER 25, 2021 6:00 P.M.

In Attendance:

Mayor Wright-Remotely
Councilor Eric Jarvi
Councilor Mark Cormier
Councilor Ivan McPike
Councilor Allen Esposito
Councilor Peter Erickson
Councilor Christine Cubberley

Paula Scott, Town Manager Victor Smith, Public Works Director Jason Lundstrom, Deputy Fire Chief

A. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Jarvi called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

- B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- C. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Council discussion on Manning Mill Bridge

Town Manager Scott gave an overview of the Manning Mill Bridge. After discussion consensus of Council is for the higher load limit bridge to be something to look at and the route to fund would be using the excess revenue sharing dollars, described by the Town Manager and conserving the unassigned general fund balance for the future usage. Referred to Regular Town Council Meeting.

b. Staff recommendations on use of ARPA funds including emergency response vehicle

Town Manager Scott stated that she met with Chief Bailey, Victor Smith, DPW, Amy Ryder, Economic Development Director, Deputy Treasurer David Johnson and Tammy Ewing, HR Director to discuss uses of ARPA funds based upon what is allowed within the act and what specific needs the Town of Hampden has. The Town of Hampden is slated to receive \$728,000. She spoke on the prioritized list of items being: Engineering for sewer build out on Coldbrook Road; Contribution to an emergency response vehicle; Hazard pay for emergency personnel; Inspecting/mitigating I/I to increase sewer capacity; Sewer line sagging repair at Stoney Brook; Restocking EMS supplies used during covid; Reimbursement of unemployment costs and engineering for Cottage Street stormwater project. After discussion Council consensus is to forward the Town Manager's suggested priority list for discussion to the next Town Council Meeting.

c. Council discussion on franchise fees

This item was added to the Agenda at the meeting.

Note: Council will take a five-minute recess at 8:00 p.m.

Town Manager Scott stated that she discovered that the Town of Hampden's Franchise Agreement with the cable company expired in 2013 and the agreement itself is outdated, She reached out to the Cable Television Association of Maine and they provided information for a sample policy which she has updated and made specific to Hampden. One of the changes was that even though the original Franchise Agreement called for a 5 % return to the Town, in 2003 the Town asked the Cable Company to modify the agreement to reduce it down to a 1% return to the Town. The new agreement is with the Town Attorney for review. Council suggestion is to advance the 5 % as the industry standard for the new Franchise Agreement for consideration by full Council.

d. Executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. section 405(6)(c) to include the Town Manager and Economic Development Director

Executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. section 405(6)(c) to include the Town Manager, Economic Development Director and Public Works Director entered at 6:47. Roll Call Vote 7-0

Executive session ended with no votes taken.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned after Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle C. Decker, Town Clerk